



The Daily Whip

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2004

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Ten "One Minutes" Per Side	7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

H.Res.757 – Expressing the sense of Congress on the anniversary of the terrorist attacks launched against the U.S. on September 11, 2001 (*Rep. Hyde– International Relations*) (*Under Unanimous Consent - One Hour of General Debate*). The resolved clauses of the resolution states that the House of Representatives (1) extends again its deepest sympathies to the thousands of innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, their families, friends, and loved ones; (2) honors the heroic actions and the sacrifices of U.S. military and civilian personnel and their families who have sacrificed much, including their lives and health, in defense of their country in the Global War on Terrorism; (3) honors the heroic actions of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the innocent victims and, in so doing, bravely risked their own lives and long-term health; (4) expresses thanks and gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the U.S. against terrorism in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks; (5) discourages, in the strongest possible terms, any effort to confuse the Global War on Terrorism with a war on any people or any faith; (6) reaffirms its commitment to the Global War on Terrorism and to providing the U.S. Armed Forces with the resources and support to wage it effectively and safely; (7) vows that it will continue to take whatever actions necessary to identify, intercept, and disrupt terrorists and their activities; and (8) reaffirms that the American people will never forget the sacrifices made on September 11, 2001, and will never bow to terrorist demands.

Moment of Silence Commemorating the September 11, 2001, Attacks

Postponed Vote on the Hill Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1308 – Extension of Tax Cuts Conference Report. This motion instructs conferees to agree, to the maximum extent possible within the scope of the conference, to a conference report that extends the tax relief provisions that expire at the end of 2004, and does not increase the federal budget deficit.

Postponed Suspension Votes (1 bill):

- 1) S. 2634 - Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act (*Sponsored by Sen. Dodd / Energy and Commerce Committee*)**

H.R. 5006 – Department of Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Act for FY05 (*Rep. Regula – Appropriations*) (*Open Rule - Complete Consideration*). Yesterday, the House completed general debate and began the amendment process for this bill that provides \$143.1 billion for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education for FY05 -- a 0.8% cut for Department of Labor programs, a 1.6% increase for the Department of Health and Human Services, and a 3.6% increase for the Education Department. This bill offers a modest improvement over the President's budget request but fails to meet America's needs in education, health care, medical research, and human services.

- **The Department of Labor would receive \$11.72 billion. Funding highlights include:** \$9.3 billion for employment training programs -- \$236 million less than last year (0.4% cut);

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\$1.52 billion for Job Corps (1.8% increase); 36 million for the International Labor Affairs program (68% cut); \$534 million for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2.9% increase).

➤ **The Department of Health and Human Services would receive \$63.18 billion.**

Funding highlights include: \$28.54 billion for NIH (a 2.6% increase that is the smallest increase in 19 years); \$6.33 billion for the Health Resources and Services Administration (a 4.3% overall cut that eliminates the Healthy Communities Access Program; cuts the Health Professions programs by 8.4%; cuts Rural Health Outreach Grants by 24%; and increases Community Health Centers by 13.5%); \$4.46 billion for the Centers for Disease Control programs (2.5% overall cut); \$3.39 billion for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (1.2% increase); and \$15.32 billion for Human Services Programs (a 2.3% overall increase that includes \$2 billion for LIHEAP and \$6.89 billion for Head Start).

➤ **The Department of Education would receive \$57.68 billion. Funding highlights include:** \$24.79 billion for No Child Left Behind Act programs (a 1.3% increase but \$9.5 billion less than the funding promised in the authorizing bill for FY05 and a \$25 billion cumulative shortfall); \$11.06 billion for Special Education Grants (9.9% increase); \$12.83 billion for the Pell Grant program (the maximum Pell Grant for low-income college students is frozen at \$4,050); \$67 million for Perkins Loans (59% cut); \$999 million for College Work Study (a freeze).

Yesterday, the Republican Leadership decided to suspend consideration of H.R. 5006 as Ranking Members Obey and George Miller were about to offer an important amendment on overtime regulations. However, this amendment will be offered today. The Obey/George Miller amendment would prohibit the Department of Labor from implementing new rules on overtime pay (except for the provisions that expand overtime protections for low-income workers). The rules went into effect on August 23, 2004, and redefine who is considered a professional, administrative, or executive employee and thereby exempt from overtime pay. These new eligibility rules would disqualify over 6 million workers from overtime protection under the Fair Labor Standards Act. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES on the Obey/George Miller Amendment to block these misguided overtime regulations.**

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: On Friday, no votes are expected in the House.

Daily Quote...

"There is a danger that we'll be hit again no matter who is elected president this November, as President Bush himself has said on many occasions. The danger might be a bit less if the current administration had chosen to spend less on tax cuts for the wealthy and more on protecting our ports, securing nuclear materials in Russia and establishing an enforceable immigration policy that would keep better track of people who enter the country from abroad."

- *The New York Times* in an editorial today - "A Disgraceful Campaign Speech" - regarding Vice President Dick Cheney's comment that the "danger is we'll get hit again" if John Kerry is elected President